

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 556

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Charles Dalton Byrd of Mason.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Charles Dalton Byrd; and

WHEREAS, Dalton Byrd was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrd was born on August 9, 1929, to Charlie Edgar and Effie True Steward at the family farm in Mason; the eldest of nine children, he attended Tipton County schools and later graduated from Byars-Hall High School in 1948; and

WHEREAS, the Byrd family traveled among the local churches and revivals and gained acclaim as a family gospel group; at one such revival, Mr. Byrd met the woman who would become his wife; and

WHEREAS, Dalton Byrd was a veteran of the Korean War, and he served honorably with an unwavering sense of duty and patriotism; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrd served with acumen and alacrity as an employee of Somerville Bank and Trust, in which position he earned the respect of his peers, customers, and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work. After twenty-five years of service, he retired from his position as an officer of the bank, only to return later to the Hickory Withe branch for another eight years because he missed his customers; and

WHEREAS, prior to working with Somerville Bank and Trust, Dalton Byrd was an employee of the Gulf Oil and Sears & Roebuck companies. He was also a cattle producer on the family farm, which is still maintained by the Byrd family and produces commercial and registered Angus; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrd was a member of the Tennessee Cattlemen's Association and the American Angus Association; and

WHEREAS, Dalton Byrd was an active and devout member of Ebenezer Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which he served faithfully for many years as an elder, a deacon, a Sunday School teacher, and a choir member; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dalton Byrd will be remembered by his loving wife of sixty-four years, Dorothy Ann Smith; his siblings, Lanie Byrd, Milton Byrd, Martha Lou Wylie, Evelyn Yarbrow, Patricia Meinke, Louis Byrd, Linda Stewart, and Virginia Byrd; his children, Kevin Smith Byrd and Amelia "Amye" Byrd Winingar; his grandchildren, Hollie Wilson, Nicholas Thomas, Taylor Thomas, Jessica Brooks, Justin Brooks, Jayci Brooks, and Rebecca Byrd; his great-grandchildren, Hunter Tipler, Kelsi Wilson, Keegan Wilson, Greaves Wilson, Jaden Byrd, Jacob Byrd, Jordan Byrd, and Solomon Bonner; and a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrd leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Charles Dalton Byrd, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Byrd.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.